

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Schneider et al.

Application No.: 10/699,260

Filed: October 31, 2003

Title: PLAYER SPECIFIC REWARDS



Attorney Docket No.:
IGT1P288X1/AC020CIP1, AC

Examiner: Laneau, Ronald

Group: 3714

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail on March 20, 2008 in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danielle Jones". Below the signature, the name "Danielle Jones" is printed in a smaller, standard font.

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 20, 2007. Since there are no amendments or additions to the claims, a new listing of the claims is not presented with this response.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-7 and 16-19 stand rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,319,125 (Acres).

The Cited Art

Acres is directed to a method for awarding bonus prizes as part of a bonus promotion. Various forms of bonus prizes may be awarded, including a welcome back bonus. (Col. 4, lines 45-49). The welcome back bonus offers a period of half-price wagering. The welcome back bonus is not immediately available when earned. Instead, a player must wait until a later pre-defined time to redeem the welcome back bonus through half-price wagering. (Col. 9, lines 58-67). The points required for each welcome back bonus can be cumulatively earned over successive visits. No player can accumulate more than one bonus award during a single playing